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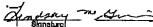
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PAGE 1/11 * RCVD AT 12/2/2004 3:54:22 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-9/7 * DNIS:9728306 * CSID:9782640119 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-06

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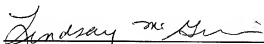
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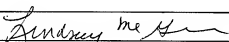
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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	09/455,555
Filing Date	12/07/1999
First Named Inventor	Cain
Group Art Unit	2663
Examiner Name	Duong
Attorney Docket Number	120-241

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

ENCLOSURES *(check all that apply)*

☐ Fee Transmittal Form	☐ Assignment Papers *(for an Application)*	☐ After Allowance Communication to Group
☐ Fee Attached	☐ Drawing(s)	☐ Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
✖ Amendment	☐ Licensing-related Papers	☐ Appeal Communication to Group *(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)*
☐ After Final	☐ Petition	☐ Proprietary Information
☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)	☐ Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	☐ Status Letter
☐ Extension of Time Request	☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	☐ Other Enclosure(s) *(please identify below):*
☐ Express Abandonment Request	☐ Terminal Disclaimer	Return Receipt Postcard
☐ Information Disclosure Statement	☐ Request for Refund	
☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	☐ CD, Number of CD(s)	
☐ Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application ☐ Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	Remarks	Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 502569.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Lindsay McGuinness, Reg. No. 38,549 Steubing McGuinness & Manaras LLP
Signature	*Lindsay mc g*
Date	12/2/2004

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# TRANSMITTAL FORM *(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)*	Application Number	09/455,555
	Filing Date	12/07/1999
	First Named Inventor	Cain
	Group Art Unit	2663
	Examiner Name	Duong
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	120-241

ENCLOSURES *(check all that apply)*

☐ Fee Transmittal Form

   ☐ Fee Attached

☒ Amendment

   ☐ After Final

   ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)

☐ Extension of Time Request

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☐ Information Disclosure Statement

☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)

☐ Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application
   ☐ Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

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☐ Proprietary Information

☐ Status Letter

☐ Other Enclosure(s) *(please identify below):*

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Firm or Individual name	Lindsay McGuinness, Reg. No. 38,549 Steubing McGuinness & Manaras LLP
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Cain	
Application No.: 09/455,955	Group Art Unit: 2663
Filed: 12/07/1999	
Title: System, Device and Method for Distributing Link State Information in a Communication Network	Examiner: Juntima
Attorney Docket No.: 2204/184 120-241	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<u>RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.111</u>

Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiners' phone call of December 2, 2004, and further in order to place the appeal of this application in proper order, entry of the below amendment, which cancels claims 4-6, is respectfully requested.

In the claims:

CLAIMS

1. (Previously Amended) A method for distributing link state information by a node to a neighbor in a communication system, the method comprising:

      sending a first link state advertisement protocol message to the neighbor; and

      sending a second link state advertisement protocol message to the neighbor prior to receiving an acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

      monitoring for an acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message;

      failing to receive the acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message within a predetermined timeout period; and

      retransmitting the first link state advertisement protocol message.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

      retransmitting the second link state advertisement protocol message.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) A device for distributing link state information in a communication network, the device comprising a link state routing protocol having a sliding window mechanism with a window size greater than one (1) for sending up to a predetermined maximum number of link state advertisement protocol messages without receiving an acknowledgement for any of said link state advertisement protocol messages.

8. (Previously Amended) The device of claim 7, wherein the link state protocol comprises:

link state distribution logic operably coupled to generate link state advertisement protocol messages; and

sliding window logic responsive to the link state distribution logic and operably coupled to maintain a sliding window for sending up to a predetermined maximum number of link state advertisement protocol messages to a neighbor without receiving an acknowledgement for any of said link state advertisement protocol messages.

9. (Original) The device of claim 8, wherein the sliding window logic is operably coupled to send a first link state advertisement protocol message to the neighbor and to send a second link state advertisement protocol message to the neighbor prior to receiving an acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message.

10. (Original) The device of claim 9, wherein the sliding window logic is operably coupled to monitor for an acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message and to retransmit the first link state advertisement protocol message upon failing to receive the acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message within a predetermined timeout period.

11. (Original) The device of claim 10, wherein the sliding window logic is operably coupled to retransmit the second link state advertisement protocol message.

12. (Original) The device of claim 8, wherein the sliding window logic is operably coupled to send the predetermined maximum number of link state advertisement protocol messages to the neighbor and to wait for an acknowledgement message from the neighbor for at least one of the link state advertisement protocol messages before sending another link state advertisement protocol message.

13. (Original) The device of claim 12, wherein the sliding window logic is operably coupled to receive the acknowledgement message from the neighbor for a first link state advertisement protocol message and to send another link state advertisement protocol message.

14. (Original) The device of claim 12, wherein the sliding window logic is operably coupled to retransmit at least a first unacknowledged link state advertisement protocol message upon failing to receive the acknowledgement message from the neighbor within a predetermined timeout period.

15. (Previously Amended) A program product comprising a computer readable medium having embodied therein a computer program for distributing link state information in a communication network, the computer program comprising a link state routing protocol having a sliding window mechanism with a window size greater than one (1) for sending up to a predetermined maximum number of link state advertisement protocol messages without receiving an acknowledgement for any of said link state advertisement protocol messages.

16. (Previously Amended) The program product of claim 15, wherein the link state routing protocol comprises:

         link state distribution logic programmed to generate link state advertisement protocol messages; and

         sliding window logic responsive to the link state distribution logic and programmed to maintain a sliding window for sending up to a predetermined maximum number of link state advertisement protocol messages to a neighbor without receiving an acknowledgement for any of said link state advertisement protocol messages.

17. (Original) The program product of claim 16, wherein the sliding window logic is programmed to send a first link state advertisement protocol message to the neighbor and to send a second link state advertisement protocol message to the neighbor prior to receiving an acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message.

18. (Original) The program product of claim 17, wherein the sliding window logic is programmed to monitor for an acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message and to retransmit the first link state advertisement protocol message upon failing to receive the acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message within a predetermined timeout period.

19. (Original) The program product of claim 18, wherein the sliding window logic is programmed to retransmit the second link state advertisement protocol message.

20. (Original) The program product of claim 16, wherein the sliding window logic is programmed to send the predetermined maximum number of link state advertisement protocol messages to the neighbor and to wait for an acknowledgement message from the neighbor for at least one of the link state advertisement protocol messages before sending another link state advertisement protocol message.

21. (Original) The program product of claim 20, wherein the sliding window logic is programmed to receive the acknowledgement message from the neighbor for a first link state advertisement protocol message and to send another link state advertisement protocol message.

22. (Original) The program product of claim 20, wherein the sliding window logic is programmed to retransmit at least a first unacknowledged link state advertisement protocol message upon failing to receive the acknowledgement message from the neighbor within a predetermined timeout period.

23. (Original) A communication system comprising a node in communication with a neighbor, wherein the node includes a link state routing protocol having a sliding window mechanism with a window size greater than one (1) for sending up to a predetermined maximum number of link state advertisement protocol messages to the neighbor without receiving an acknowledgement for any of said link state advertisement protocol messages from the neighbor.

24. (Original) The communication system of claim 23, wherein the node is operably coupled to send a first link state advertisement protocol message to the neighbor and to send a second link state advertisement protocol message to the neighbor prior to receiving an acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol messages.

25. (Original) The communication system of claim 24, wherein the node is operably coupled to monitor for an acknowledgment message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message and to retransmit the first link state advertisement protocol message upon failing to receive the acknowledgement message from the neighbor for the first link state advertisement protocol message within a predetermined timeout period.

26. (Original) The communication system of claim 25, wherein the node is operably coupled to retransmit the second link state advertisement protocol message.

27. (Original) The communication system of claim 23, wherein the node is operably coupled to maintain a sliding window for sending up to a predetermined maximum number of link state advertisement protocol messages to the neighbor, to send the predetermined maximum number of link state advertisement protocol messages to the neighbor, and to wait for an acknowledgement message from the neighbor for at least one of the link state advertisement protocol messages before sending another link state advertisement protocol message.

28. (Original) The communication system of claim 27, wherein the node is operably coupled to receive the acknowledgement message from the neighbor for a first link state advertisement protocol message and to send another link state advertisement protocol message.

29. (Original) The communication system of claim 27, wherein the node is operably coupled to retransmit at least a first unacknowledged link state advertisement protocol message upon failing to receive the acknowledgement message from the neighbor within a predetermined timeout period.

30. (Original) A link state routing protocol comprising a sliding window mechanism.
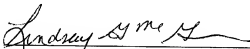
31. (Original) The link state routing protocol of claim 30, comprising open shortest path first (OSPF) routing protocol logic in combination with the sliding window mechanism.

REMARKS

Applicants believe that the above amendment places the application in conformance with the outstanding appeal brief, and entry is respectfully requested. Should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Lindsay mcGuinness, Applicant's Attorney at 978-264-6664 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

_/ 2 / 2 / 200 4_
Date

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Docket No. 120-241
Dd: 12/24/2003